Reservation for Backward Classes

@2421. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISRA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to amend job quota order, providing for 27 per cent job reservation for the backward classes, to exclude the creamy layer; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The OM of 13-8-1990 providing for reservation of 27% in civil services and posts under the Government of India for the Other Backward Classes is proposed to be amended in the light of recommendations contained in the Report of the Expert Committee which has already been tabled in both Houses of Parliament on 16-3-1993.

Wakf Amendment Bill

2422. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *alias* MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 651 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th April, 1993 and state by when a bill is proposed to be introduced in the Parliament incorporating amendment to the Wakf Act, 1954?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): A Bill to amend the Wakf Act 1954 and the Wakf (A) Act, 1984 is likely to be introduced during the current session of the Parliament.

Dr. Ambedkar National Award

2423. SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Ambedkar Foundation has announced award for rendering service to down-trodden and backward class people for the last year, if so, what are the details in this regard;

(b) if not, when the announcement is likely to be made; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Vivekananda Medical Hospital in Wynad District of Kerala rendering service to tribals was recommended for Dr. Ambedkar Foundation Award; if so, what has been the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Dr. Ambedkar Foundation has invited nominations for Dr. Ambedkar National Award 1992. The Award has been instituted by the Government of India to be presented to individuals for having made outstanding contributions in promoting social understanding and in the upliftment of the weaker sections in India. The selection will be made on the basis of:

(i) Contributions to a mass movement which have made considerable impact on the quality of life of the weaker sections of the society and have been widely recognised; and

(ii) A written work that has been published, and had helped to improve, conscientize and awaken the weaker sections of the society.

(c) Yes, Sir. All the eligible nominations including the Vivekananda Medical Hospital in Wynad District of Kerala are being processed for selection by the Jury.

Bill on Discrimination against the Handicapped

2424. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 81 given in the Rajya Sabha on 30th April, 1993 and state by when the Bill on discrimination against the handicapped in society is likely to be introduced in the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): The introduction of a "Legislation providing for Rights and Safeguards to Handicapped Persons" is under consideration of the Government.

Expansion of National Rehabilitation Training Institutes

2425. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to expand the four national rehabilitation training institutes for the handicapped; and

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@Previously Unstarred Question 1496, transferred from the 5th August, 1993.

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The activities of the national rehabilitation training institutes are proposed to be expanded.

National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun is to take up computerised braille presses and distribution of 10,000 interpainting braille slates. Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Bombay is to start a new training centre at Indore. Two teachers' training centres, four centres for services in urban slums, five centres for extension services, six demonstration projects for prevention and early intervention programme and a multiple handicap unit on a pilot basis would be taken up by National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad. Establishment of a Sports complex for development of recreation facilities for the disabled would be started by National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Calcutta. The Institute for the Physically Handicapped, Delhi is starting two new short-term orientation courses and a workshop on Iso-kinetic exercises.

Apart from the above particular activities, all the national rehabilitation and training institutes, would be taking up new areas of research and will be expanding outreach and extension activities for creation of awareness.

Setting up of District Rehabilitation Institutions for the Handicapped

2426. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up two hundred extension centres and district Rehabilitation Institutions with vocational training facilities to draw out the best talents among the handicapped; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. 11 District Rehabilitation Centres have been set up to provide comprehensive and co-ordinated rehabilitation services to the disabled in rural areas. The scheme is being revised to provide a comprehensive package of rehabilitation services to the rural disabled and converted to a National Programme for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled. The objectives of the scheme are :

(i) To offer rehabilitation services viz. restorative therapy, early detection and timely intervention, parent counselling and provision of aids and appliances at the village PHC, CHC and District levels, to disabled persons; and

(ii) Provide assessment, guidance and referral facilities for vocational education and placement services;

(iii) Undertake the work of awareness creation and information dissamination to tackle various aspects of disability including prevention and rehabilitation;

(iv) Rehabilitate every disabled person as far as possible in his own environment; and

(v) Mobilise community support and coordinate all existing services and schemes for prevention of disability and rehabilitation of disabled persons.

अल्पसंख्यक वर्गों के व्यक्तियों में शिक्षा का प्रसार

2427. **श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मीम अफजल** : क्या कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान सरकार ने अल्पसंख्यक वर्गों के व्यक्तियों में शिक्षा के प्रसार, उनके आर्थिक उत्थान और सरकारी नौकरियों में उनकी प्रतिशतता के बारे में कोई मूल्यांकन किया है और यदि हां, तो उसका वर्ष-वार ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ख) सरकार उनकी उन्नति के लिए भविष्य में क्या-क्या कदम उठाने पर विचार कर रही है ?

कल्याण मंत्री (श्री सिताराम केसरी) : (क) इस संबंध में कोई विशिष्ट अध्ययन नहीं किया गया है । तथापि, शैक्षिक रूप से पिछड़े अल्पसंख्यकों के शैक्षिक विकास की आवश्यकता को ध्यान में रखते हुए, राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति के अन्तर्गत कार्रवाई कार्यक्रम का पुनर्निर्माण किया गया है ताकि अल्पसंख्यकों के शैक्षिक विकास के लिए किए जाने वाले उपायों की रूप रेखा बनाई जा सके ।

(ख) सरकार, अल्पसंख्यकों के कल्याण के लिए 15-सूत्री कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वित कर रही है जिसमें अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ यह सुनिश्चित करने का प्रयत्न किया गया है कि विभिन्न विकास कार्यक्रमों के लाभ अल्पसंख्यकों को उचित तथा समुचित ढंग से प्रवाहित हों ।